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Woodrow Wilson

A SKETCH

He has preserved the peace of the country amidst a world-war.

He has maintained its honor and restored its prosperity.

He has driven plutocracy from power and re-established democracy in the seat of government.

SEPTEMBER, 1916

Grunder, Howard W

Woodrow Wilson

A SKETCH

Together with a Short
Review of the Career of
Thomas R. Marshall,
Vice-President.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

SEPTEMBER, 1916

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WOODROW WILSON.

WOODROW WILSON! The grateful hearts of your countrymen go out to you as their Chief-Magistrate who has preserved their tranquillity during two awful years of a world drenched in a cataclysm of blood! You have upheld your country's honor and dignity with such quiescent yet invincible tenacity as to compel the respect of the nations of the earth! You have held your country at peace with the world in the midst of the indescribable misery and death that has surrounded it! We know what this peace has cost you in anguish of heart, and we love you profoundly for the miseries you have suffered for your country's sake! The exemplification of your nobility of soul in resolutely and continuously repelling and defeating all the powerfully selfish efforts to enmesh your country in foreign complications, warms the cockles of all patriots' hearts! Pæans of ineffable joy reverberate throughout the land at the prospect of your ascendency!

The great man who at this moment occupies the most exalted official position in the civilized world—the Presidency of the United States—was born at Staunton, Virginia, December 28, 1856. He is descended from a line of distinguished Scots-Irish Presbyterian divines, some of whom were men of special note, and particularly marked for their learning, their eloquence, and their force of character. He grew to manhood in Georgia, where his father was pastor of Presbyterian churches, and at the age of nineteen, in the year 1875, he entered Princeton College with no well-defined idea as to what profession he intended to devote his life. He had read widely and to some purpose as a youth, and was, accordingly, now toleraby informed—much beyond that of the everyday college freshman. He had formed some idea of politics, too, and while not narrow, or bigoted, or self-sufficient, was a pronounced Democrat, with an

ability and an inclination to indulge in political controversy. He was genial, fond of sport, a maker of fun, yet, withal, was honorable, high-minded, and compelled the respect and admiration of his fellows.

Soon after entering Princeton he chanced to read a copy of the "Gentleman's Magazine," an English publication for which Dr. Samuel Johnson wrote imaginary debates that took place in parliament. It was not permitted to publish proceedings of parliament, so Dr. Johnson being furnished with meagre notes of speeches, enlarged them, supplying both argument and eloquence, and these were published in the "Gentleman's Magazine" under the title of "Debates of the Senate of Lilliput." The reading and studying of these deeply interested him, and thenceforward his determination was to prepare for a public career. He studied the lives of public men, devoted much time to the study of history and the history of government. He possessed a natural elegance of diction and a readiness of expression, both of which he now strove to improve, and he succeeded so well that he was soon recognized as the most eloquent and fluent debater among the student body.

As a result of his studies of government he wrote and published, during his senior year, an essay called "Cabinet Government in the United States," which set him apart at once as a writer of logical, clear, and eloquent English. He graduated in 1879, ranking forty-first in a class of one hundred and twenty-five.

He was of the belief that the best way to enter public life was through the law; accordingly, after his graduation from Princeton he entered the law department of the University of Virginia. Here he interspersed his study of law with writing the lives of William E. Gladstone and John Bright, and the study of history and biography. In his zeal to acquire the knowledge and accomplishments which he deemed necessary to a successful public career, he overtaxed his strength, and his health becoming impaired, he left the University and repaired to his home, now in North Carolina, where he spent a year recovering.

He then went to Atlanta, Georgia, formed a law partnership with one Edward I. Renick, where they patiently waited for business which never came, and after vainly tarrying here for more than a year,

Woodrow Wilson.

he quit the fellowship of his partner, and entered Johns Hopkins University with the avowed purpose of acquiring a more extended knowledge of the science of government, history, and political economy.

It should be said that while waiting for clients at Atlanta he began the writing of a book, "Congressional Government," which was published in 1885, and promptly brought him prominence and particularity. It was also while living here that an event occurred that marked an epoch in his life. He chanced to meet a charming, estimable, and brilliant young woman, Miss Ellen Louise Axson, who became his wife on June 24, 1885, and who proved to be a genuinely good and lovable helpmeet, whose encouragement and wifely assistance were potent factors in his happiness and success. Three daughters were the result of this marriage, one of whom is the wife of the Secretary of the Treasury, William G. McAdoo, another is the wife of Professor Sayre, who is now connected with the University of Pennsylvania, and the third is at home.

We find Mr. Wilson attached to Bryn Mawr College in the fall of 1885 as associate teacher of history and political economy, where he remained until 1888, when he went to Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, to fill the chair of history and political economy. During his professorship at Bryn Mawr, Johns Hopkins University conferred the degree of Ph.D. on him and engaged him to deliver one lecture a week at that institution for a period of six months. He soon became conspicuous in the lecture field for both learning and eloquence; hence it was that his engagements became numerous, each succeeding lecture adding to his constantly widening reputation, and when a vacancy occurred in the chair of jurisprudence and politics at Princeton University in 1890, he was chosen to fill it. Soon his great talents made him, perhaps, the most popular and noted member of the faculty. He now lectured much. He became widely popular. He gave further play to his literary propensities by writing four books, "Division and Reunion," "An Old Master," "Mere Literature," and "George Washington," and some years later, "A History of the American People," all of which were written in a style so charming, and with so much eloquence, that they

took high rank at once as gems of literary merit. His life of Washington is considered one of the very best of the many good books describing the life and character of this great man.

When Dr. Francis Patten resigned the presidency of Princeton University in 1902, what more inevitable sequence than the selection of Dr. Woodrow Wilson as his successor? It so happened. Dr. Wilson was the first layman to be accorded this honor. Princeton was at this time attended, largely, by the sons of the very rich, who came here to while away a few pleasant years in idleness and luxurious ease. There had grown up under this exclusive spirit a number of clubs that were established in splendid buildings, expensively furnished, and surrounded by spacious lawns, carefully kept. These clubs could not, and were not intended to, admit to membership all, or nearly all, the students attending the institution, but only a select few, comparatively. This led to dissatisfaction, created bitter jealousies, dispelled effective discipline, and established classes. Many of the students failed to pass their examinations but were promoted notwithstanding, and these conditions led to a lowering of the standard of both discipline and scholarship, and a decrease of influence throughout the land as an institution of higher learning.

When Dr. Wilson became head of the institution he had well-matured plans for the correction of these abuses, which he forthwith set about to put into execution. Accordingly, he appointed a Committee on Examination and Standing, which soon reported a new system of study, and the students were informed, at the same time, that they would be required to pass their examinations or be dropped; and when a number of these club boys failed to make satisfactory marks at the examinations and were dropped, there arose a great furore and a severe criticism of the president. Nothing daunted, however, he went resolutely forward and was unalterable in his purpose of requiring scholarship and efficiency, and not social standing and wealth, as requisites for promotion and graduation. The result of this first and far-reaching reform was a bracing, and an application to study all along the line of the student body. The club boys reformed their habits, applied themselves to the acquisition of

knowledge, dispensed with many luxuries, notwithstanding they did a deal of grumbling.

The second measure of reform was to bring the students into closer relationship with the faculty, to have the younger professors in almost constant touch with them, so that their reading, their sports, their hours of study, their daily habits of life, would be thus influenced, the result of which would be a still further efficiency, a more harmonious, and an altogether better organized University life. But when he attempted the execution of these changes, and the reorganization of the social life of the institution, a furious storm broke that continued during the remainder of the presidency of Dr. Wilson. His interference with the club life was resented as an infringement of a vested right that was altogether without his province. It would tend to a leveling of social distinctions, so that the boys belonging to families of great wealth and exclusiveness would be thrown into more frequent contact with those of plebeian birth and habits. This could not be endured. This would be a breaking up of the splendid traditions of Old Nassau's exclusive social set, which in the minds of those students and alumni who had been enjoying membership in the clubs would be simply the destruction of the institution itself. The report of the committee that was appointed by the president to devise means to bring about the contemplated changes was adopted by a vote of twenty-five of the twenty-seven trustees present at the meeting, and though he was so preponderantly indorsed by the corporate representatives of the University, a bitter controversy resulted, and continued for years, and finally ended in the defeat of the cherished plans of Dr. Wilson to make Princeton a more democratic, a more numerously patronized, a less exclusive, and a more influential institution of learning throughout the land. Out of sympathy with the spirit of the controlling forces, he resigned the presidency June, 1910.

Auspiciously for him, the time was at hand for the nomination of Gubernatorial candidates for the State of New Jersey, and the leaders of the popular element of his party, being then alert as to a candidate who possessed the intelligence, the strength of character, the prominence, the popularity, and the eloquence necessary to suc-

ceed, alighted on him. A newspaper campaign for his nomination began, which soon unified, largely, the sentiment for him.

New Jersey for years had been groaning under heavy burdens, imposed by the twin political machine. These cormorants with the no less inordinate vampires, the insatiable corporations, had years before attached themselves to the body politic; they had battened long at the people's expense. Here was the man who could win, not only the nomination, but the election as well, and who possessed the personality, the literary, and all the humane elements to make him a considerate and successful champion of the popular cause; who could and would throttle these foul enemies that had been gnawing at the public vitals, lo! these many years.

For years James Smith, Jr., assisted by his relative, Democratic State Chairman James Nugent, controlled the policies of the Democratic party, and although it had not been in control of the State government for quite a time, these men were more or less potent in shaping its destiny through their working connection with the Republican organization. Smith had served one term as United States Senator, and the alluring siren had again started her song, Smith was captivated, and about this time was in quest of a man who could carry the election for Governor, which would in all probability assure the election of a favorable legislature, and which would in turn elect Mr. Smith to another six years in the United States Senate. And, at the suggestion of Dr. Wilson's name, lo! here was just the man. He is a great educator, profoundly learned, not experienced in government, it is true, but learned in the theory and economy of it, and, withal, justly popular; and although dangerously progressive, he would hazard his chance to him. Had he not had experience with independently inclined men before? Had he not wholly and finally subjected them to his will? And, while Dr. Wilson is a man of much reputation for honor, rectitude, and kindred attributes, he would assume charge of his campaign, direct it, manipulate the delegates, and bring the influence of the entire organization to bear in his favor, and of a certainty nominate him with very little, if any opposition, which would put the Governor-elect under

such obligations to him that he could not oppose his Senatorial candidacy, though he may not be of the desired type.

Mr. Smith's first move was to send emissaries to Dr. Wilson to urge him to consent to accept the nomination for Governor. They told him that with the support of Mr. Smith his nomination could be accomplished with but small effort, and that it was their mission to assure him this support, which meant not only his nomination, but unquestionably his election in November. Dr. Wilson knew Mr. Smith and his connection with New Jersey politics, and divined his purpose in this unsolicited support, and being so unalterably hostile to the devious methods employed by Mr. Smith, he informed these men that he must be assured that Mr. Smith would not be a candidate for the Senate, for in view of their wide divergence of political views he would endeavor to prevent his election to the Senate, in case he were the Governor of the State and Mr. Smith aspired to membership in that body. It was represented to him that Mr. Smith's health was precarious, and that he had no further political ambitions; that he was moved to take this interest by reason of his desire to see his party succeed; and the pleasure he would experience by feeling that he, perhaps, was the humble instrument of placing in the Governorship of his State a capable and distinguished man, whose administration, in all likelihood, would be of such surpassing excellence as to commend him to the favorable consideration of the people for the Presidency.

Some further talk about party fidelity and the treatment of the organization by Mr. Wilson, in the event of his election, were indulged in: these gentlemen seemed pleased, and evidently reported a satisfactory interview to Mr. Smith, who plunged into the preliminaries of the campaign, advising and encouraging his friends to support Dr. Wilson, so that when the convention was held there was little real opposition, and that quite desultory. Dr. Wilson was thus nominated, appeared before the convention, and made a happily apt and eloquent speech, which may have caused some misgivings on the part of the machine followers, for it certainly afforded them no reassurance of a happy entrance into the political elysium. He was elected Governor November 8, 1910, by a plurality approximating

fifty thousand votes, and James E. Martine, who with others had submitted his name to the Democratic primaries, received a large majority of the votes cast for United States Senator.

Soon after the election the Governor-elect was surprised by a visit from Mr. James Smith, Jr., and was astounded when told by that gentleman that his health was now restored, and that he had resolved to be a candidate before the legislature for election to the United States Senate. Governor Wilson replied that he had explicitly and in unmistakable language informed Smith's friends that he would be averse to his election; that he had been assured that Smith was sick, well-nigh fatally, and would not be a candidate; that he considered his influence in New Jersey politics detrimental to the public welfare; that, therefore, he would be obliged to subvert his efforts, were he to be elected Governor. Besides, Martine and others had submitted their names to the Democratic people at the primaries for the ascertainment of their views; that the people had spoken overwhelmingly in favor of Martine, and hence he felt it his directed duty to exert his influence with the legislature to ratify the expressed wish of the people so unmistakably given. Mr. Smith rejoined that he looked on the primaries as a farce and that the few votes cast for Senator was strong evidence that the people likewise regarded them; and that he had invincibly determined to have his name presented to the legislature for consideration. He then left the conference disappointed and chagrined, but undismayed and resolved.

Sometime subsequent to this meeting, Governor-elect Wilson called on Mr. Smith with a view of making a final effort to dissuade him from pursuing a course that would indubitably divide the councils of the party, destroy its inviolability, and perhaps disrupt and defeat the reform policy he had so steadfastly determined to make the law of the State of New Jersey. Mr. Smith brusquely refused to listen to any such suggestion. Dr. Wilson took his leave, and soon thereafter we find him appearing before large bodies of people at the principal centres of population, recalling to them that, at the recent primaries, they had placed the seal of their indorsement on one James E. Martine for United States Senator, and that it was their duty to admonish the men whom they had elected to the legislature to carry

out this mandate; that if by their supineness Mr. Smith should receive the support of a majority of this body and secure the prize, the enemies of the primary measure would be thus endorsed, and the success of the contemplated reform program would be put in jeopardy; and still worse, the boss system would be revitalized and empowered. The people were sensibly aroused, supported the Governor's view, and when the vote for United States Senator was taken on January 28, 1911, James Smith, Jr., received four votes and James E. Martine received forty, and was duly elected.

This contest brought forward in bold relief this strong and remarkable man. It revealed to the nation a new luminary of wonderful power and brilliancy in the political heavens: one that was destined to dispel the black clouds of political diabolism, and, as a beacon, guide the footsteps of the people in the ways of social justice and collective righteousness.

Mr. Smith and his cohorts were discomfited, defeated, routed, but not dismayed. They fain would fight on: they would find the weak spot in the Governor's character and enter there. Had they not had experience with recalcitrant and ungrateful men before? Men whom they had raised from obscurity to power and fame? And had they not finally prevailed? They would not despair now. If this ingrate did not reveal a faint heart; did not become amenable to argument and reason; would not be captivated by the prospect of the Presidential nomination—then their only recourse was to call forth the supreme power of the machine and crush him irrevocably. When the legislature settled down to work such was the aspect of affairs.

The platform on which the Democratic legislature was elected called for the enactment of a Direct Primary Election law, a Corrupt Practices act, a Public Service Commission with power to fix rates, an Employers' Liability and Workman's Compensation law, and others. Governor Wilson immediately assumed the leadership of his party, and at once set in motion the forces that would eventually place them on the statute books. He knew that he would be responsible for his administration, and he was in no spirit to permit a subversion of his program. He was alert, too, to the necessity of

quickly enacting into law this policy. With him a performance was a sequel to a promise.

It must not be thought that the twin machine of the State supinely submitted. Neither Smith and Nugent, nor their Republican friends, had the remotest notion of assenting to this reform legislation, but on the other hand had determined to avert all mischief to the interests that they represented and with which they were allied by ties of material well-being. Therefore, when the Geran bill which provided for direct primary elections came up for consideration, the Democratic members of the legislature called a caucus to take party action on it. It was State Chairman Nugent who was the dominant figure in this action, and it was his purpose to have the caucus act unfavorably on the bill. Governor Wilson knew this, and he also knew that the enemies to progress within his own party intended to make this caucus action the test of their strength; they felt confident of success; he knew if he was worsted in this fight he would likely be helpless to have his legislative program carried out; he was vigilant and aggressive, and on the night of the caucus presented himself at the door for admission, which was reluctantly granted. His enemies in the caucus would have refused him the privilege of participation in its deliberations, but they feared the public wrath. The caucus was in session for hours; the Governor was now face to face with the enemies of progress for the first time within the official councils of the party, and it was essential that he should win in order to place his leadership beyond controversion. He was on his feet constantly, counseling, advising, admonishing, and when a vote was taken it revealed him the victor. The result was a further notice to the plutocrats that a stronger one than they had appeared on the active scenes of political life, and he represented the people's interests, and, moreover, he was a forceful, masterful, and valiant fighter, equipped, as no other Governor of New Jersey had been, in intellect, in comprehensive grasp of affairs, with a resolute and invincible purpose to enthrone democracy in the high places held, till then, by plutocracy.

The Republicans controlled the Senate and they, too, broke the shackles of bossism and supported the measure quite generally, so that it passed both houses of the legislature with little opposition

and was promptly signed by the Governor. The sinister elements in the public affairs of New Jersey thus observed that they were overmatched by the great man who occupied the most exalted position in the State, withdrew from the contest with threats and lamentations. The juggernaut that had done signal service on many previous occasions was now helpless before this invincible giant.

In due time the legislative program of the Governor was affirmatively acted upon and became the law of the State. Among the most salutary and public-spirited of these measures are the Employers' Liability law, which gives the employee immediate compensation by the employer; a Cold Storage law which insures better and wholesomer food; a law allowing cities and towns so desiring, to be governed by a Commission; a law reorganizing the Public School laws of the State; and a most effective and comprehensive Public Utilities Commission law, which places almost unlimited power over all public utilities into the hands of a board of commission appointed by the Governor. Governor Wilson irrevocably resolved to give to the people of New Jersey a Public Service law that meant something; one that would guarantee service to the people on the part of these companies and at reasonable rates, too. He was fully advised of the nefarious demeanor of these same utilities companies towards the people of the State for years past; how they had overcharged them and underserved them; and how they had grown rich and correspondingly insolent. The Governor meant no revenge, he was minded that they should be the servants of the people and not their masters.

Governor Wilson's rout of the political bosses, his absolute independence of party behests, his resolute and successful purpose in giving to the people of New Jersey the remedial legislation that struck the shackles of the plunderbund from their enfeebled wrists and set them free; his extraordinary ability, profound learning, comprehensive grasp of public questions, so impressed the Democratic masses of the nation that a predominant sentiment for his nomination as their candidate for the Presidency soon sprang up, and when their convention was held at Baltimore in June, 1912, he was nominated after a prolonged contest. All the efforts of the plutocratic element

of the convention to defeat him were unavailing. His election, together with that of a Democratic Congress, followed in November after a three-cornered contest, marked by extreme bitterness between the nominees of the Republican and the Progressive parties and their followers.

He was inaugurated March 4, 1913, and in his address he outlined briefly the legislation that should be enacted, and which he had more fully set forth in his campaign speeches, which, by the way, were most remarkable for strong, lucid reasoning, brilliant and apt phrasing, and fluent and eloquent delivery. He assembled Congress in extraordinary session, went to the capitol and read his message to the members of that august body, thus re-establishing the example set by Washington, followed by Adams, but discontinued by Jefferson. He grasped the lines at once. He has encouraged, guided, and driven forward the Congressional steeds, lest they might not reach the goal he had set before them. Many times they have lagged and appeared leg-weary or reluctant, almost rebellious, but ever and anon he has gently but firmly pressed them forward along the highway to full accomplishment. He meant to hold Congress to a strict and prompt compliance with his pre-election pledges. Accordingly, the Underwood Tariff bill and the Simmons Currency bill were soon introduced in order. Their presentation precipitated a struggle which was long and determined, but finally both were favorably considered and soon became the law of the land. Their salutary effect was forthwith apparent. Industry and commerce took on new life and have been flourishing extensively; labor has been more numerously employed, and at higher wages than at any time within the memory of man or the records of history. A particular feature of the Simmons act is the absolute control of the monetary situation of the country by the Government itself. Henceforth there will be no more financial panics, precipitated unexpectedly because one set of Wall Street plutocrats wants to visit ruin on another set in order to seize or secure control of some valuable property that, perchance, is a competitor; or, it may be to menace Congress and thus dominate their legislative action.

While Congress was discussing and considering these measures a pernicious and numerous lobby appeared on the scene, and became mischievously active in its attempts to control the actions of that body. The President, heroic as he always has been when occasion has required it, arose to the importance of the moment, publicly denounced their Satanic operations, and laid their diabolical designs open to public inspection. Like all noxious growths, they flourish best and most in dark, dank places, but when laid bare to the effulgent rays of public observation, they faded away like the mists before the meridian sun.

The unfortunate illness and lamentable death of Mrs. Wilson, which happened at the White House on August 6, 1914, was an extreme shock and sad bereavement to the President and his family, and an exceptional loss to the poor and indigent sick of the capital, for she was as a guardian angel to them, seeking them out and ministering to their distress and want. Her death left an impressive void in art circles, too, for she was an artist of a high order.

In addition to the Underwood Tariff and the Simmons Currency acts, the more important enactments of this term of President Wilson have been, the Army and Navy bill, which increases the standing army and provides for the nationalizing of the National Guard of the several States at any time the country is imperiled; but the far more important feature is the provision for the increase of the navy, which within a few years will become the second largest in the world; the Shipping Bill, which authorizes the Government to organize a corporation of not more than fifty millions of dollars capital, to buy or lease ships and put them in trade; strengthening the Income Tax law; extending, in its application, the Industrial Employers' Arbitration act; a reduction in the rates of the Parcels-Post; a Trade Commission act; a Farm Credit system, which will enable the farmers of the country to borrow money on their properties for the purpose of financing their operations; hence, they will not be hampered for want of financial aid, as heretofore. They have heralded it as a great boon. The Department of Agriculture has been made still more useful to the people by enactments that will modernize the distribution of farm products; that will carry direct

to the farmers scientific discoveries made by the department along the lines of betterments and economy.

The Rules of Congress were changed so that the members and not the Speaker select the committees, thus liberalizing this body, and making it amenable to public sentiment. The control of one corporation over a competitor has long been felt as throttling business freedom, and has given rise to increased cost in the transaction of business; to destroy this species of monopoly, enactments were perfected that render these methods of business illegal. Accordingly, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company sold its holdings in the Baltimore and Ohio; the American Telephone and Telegraph Company disposed of its Western Union stock; other of the large corporations followed these leads, consequently we are now freer of the influence of these subtle organizations, and our business life is more buoyant and satisfactory. Interlocking directorates have long been a menace to the safety and security of business. They, too, have met their doom. Their power for evil lies broken. They are buried beyond resurrection. The plaudits of the public resound throughout the nation at their expiring gasp.

A happy event took place at the White House December 18, 1915, when the President was joined in wedlock to Mrs. Galt, an animated, educated woman, of high standing in social circles, of estimable character and much popularity. She had been a friend of the Wilson family for some time, and her marriage now completes a happy family circle.

Through the insistence of the President a Federal Child Labor bill was enacted, that will bring a sense of freedom and an opportunity for more schooling to an army of thousands of children, now employed in the mills, the mines, and the factories of the country, between the ages of ten and fifteen years. The law forbids commerce among the States, of the products of children of fourteen years of age, employed in factories; limits the working hours of children under sixteen years to eight hours a day, and forbids the employment of boys under sixteen years in the mines and quarries. When President Wilson signed this bill he said, "I want to say that with real emotion I sign this bill, because I know how long the

struggle has been to secure legislation of this sort, and what it is going to mean to the health and to the vigor of the country, and also to the happiness of those whom it affects. It is with genuine pride that I play my part in completing this legislation. I congratulate the country and felicitate myself."

When Woodrow Wilson came to the Presidency, the conditions in Mexico were chaotic and well-nigh intolerable. Citizens of our country had been murdered and their property destroyed. These murders having continued to occur and increase in number, the President sent an army and a part of the fleet to Vera Cruz, where a skirmish with a number of Huerta's soldiers resulted in the death of a number of our marines, a wounding of others, and a killing of a large force of Mexicans. After a resignation, by Huerta, of the usurped Presidency of Mexico, our soldiers and marines were withdrawn. At a later period more of our citizens lost their lives as a result of the raiding of our border land by the bandit Villa and his marauding band. A number of our soldiers entered Mexico in pursuit of this murderous banditti, in an attempt to capture and punish them. This action inflamed the Mexican people and the soldiers of that country attacked our men, the skirmish was sharp, but short, and resulted in the death of some of our soldiers, and a much greater number of Mexicans. War appeared inevitable. The Mexican soldiers mobilized close to our border, while a considerable force drew menacingly close to our small body still within their country. Immediately our National Guard to the number of many thousands were mobilized at their different State rendezvous, organized, sworn into the service of the United States pursuant to a law recently enacted, and dispatched to the border. Notwithstanding these grave and warlike conditions, President Wilson by extreme patience, consummate tact, and virtuous forbearance has thus far happily steered the bark of state clear of the reefs of war, to the great comfort and satisfaction of the country. The excitement has lessened, the threatened clash of arms has abated, and there seems to be a fair prospect of an arbitration of the difficulties by Commissioners representing the two countries.

A strike of the railway trainmen of the country had threatened for sometime past and came to a climax in the latter days of August, 1916, when the President jumped into the breach and endeavored to have an accommodation reached between the railroad heads and their men. He realized what a strike of over four hundred thousand men employed on over two hundred railroads would mean in destruction of life and property, and the want and misery that would be inflicted on a large number of our people. He failed in his efforts to effect an agreement between them, and then submitted the matter to Congress, with a recommendation that they enact a law making eight hours a day's work on the railroads, with extra pay for overtime. Congress acted promptly, passed the measure, which the President signed immediately. The leaders of the railroad employees thereupon recalled the strike order which was to have gone into effect on Labor Day, 1916, and the excitement incident thereto quickly subsided.

Likewise has the President's attitude towards the European belligerents been the patient forbearance of the broad-minded statesman. Both sets of these warring nations have infringed our rights again and again. Their friends in this country have each charged him with partiality, and each set of partisans has badgered him, and urged him to commit acts equivalent to war. The representatives of these nations have been assiduously and continuously laboring to create sentiment among our people for their respective countries, which has kept our country in a state of continual ferment. In this difficult and harrowing position the great qualities of this rare man have held him steadfast to his purpose to maintain a strictly neutral attitude, and at the same time to uphold the dignity and the honor of the country, and to avoid war. He has thus far succeeded admirably.

Happily the President's leadership has thus far prevailed with the Congress, and they have wrought into effect the measures he has thought necessary to vivify and vitalize "The New Freedom" that he has meant to give to the worthy and enlightened people of this imperial country.

He has given a new, enlarged, and more endearing meaning to the phrase "Land of the Free and Home of the Brave," therefore, when the Democratic party, in their convention held at St. Louis June 15, 1916, renominated him unanimously amidst an overwhelming tumult of applause, what more appropriate action should have closed this historical chapter than the singing of that beloved anthem:

"Oh! say, does the star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?
'Tis the star-spangled banner, oh! long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave,
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."

Thomas R. Marshall.

THOMAS R. MARSHALL.

Thomas R. Marshall, Vice-President of the United States, was born in North Manchester, Wabash County, Indiana, March 14, 1854. After due preparation he entered Wabash College, from which institution he was graduated in 1873, at the age of nineteen, when he began the study of law, and two years later swung his shingle to the breeze in Columbia City, Indiana. He was genial, studious, affable, and soon had a host of friends, and had acquired a large and lucrative practice. His ambition was to achieve fame as a lawyer, and therefore he was not to be deviated from his purpose by the tender of any public positions, be they never so alluring and desirable. His rise in his profession was so rapid that he was soon recognized as among the first lawyers of the State. He now felt that he had reached his goal; he had acquired not only fame in his profession, but also wealth.

In 1908 the Democratic State leaders, sensing the difficult fight they would have on their hands for the election of their candidate for Governor, sought the strongest and most available man in their party for their nominee. After duly considering all their available men, they nominated Thomas R. Marshall, who was elected after a memorable contest. His administration was exceptional for the excellent laws enacted, and the clean, economical way in which he discharged his trust.

The State of Indiana has frequently been the battle-ground in Presidential contests, by reason of the nearly equal numerical strength of the major parties and the size of the electoral vote. Indeed, with every such recurring federal election the national leaders of the two great parties call before their mind's eye those among its citizens who have risen to national stature, to ascertain if such an one may be discovered who would add strength to the

ticket as a Vice-Presidential candidate. It was thus that Thomas R. Marshall was chosen when the national Democratic convention of 1912 was ready to consider the names of the men presented to its considerate judgment for a running-mate for Woodrow Wilson. He was chosen, too, not only because he was one of the first citizens of Indiana, but as much so because he was a popular, able, and eminent man, whose name and fame had spread beyond the confines of his own State, and had made him friends and supporters among his fellow-countrymen of other states. In the campaign that followed Mr. Marshall was active and quite effective on the stump. The impression he made by his splendid speeches and the force of his genial personality brought considerable numerical strength to the ticket. The election resulted in his choice as Vice-President, along with that of Woodrow Wilson as President, and they were accordingly inaugurated March 4, 1913.

Meanwhile, Mr. Marshall's great learning in the law, his pre-eminence in this profession and in public affairs, brought recognition from Wabash College, Notre Dame University, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of North Carolina, and the University of Maine, in the way of the conferment upon him of the degree of LL.D.

Mr. Marshall has grown in strength and power during his incumbency of the office of Vice-President, which he has filled with marked ability, with dignity, and with strict impartiality, and which led his party to further honor him by unanimously renominating him for the same office at their convention held at St. Louis in June, 1916.

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